

The Advocate

State Historical Society

VOL. VII NO. 2.
\$1.00 A YEAR.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, JANUARY 9, 1895.

OFFICIAL STATE PAPER.

SOLONS IN SESSION.

PEACEFUL MEETING OF THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE.

No Row This Time—Republican House—
Populist Senate—Remarkable Mes-
sage of Governor Lewelling.

A new house of representatives and the old senate chosen in 1892 are in session at the state house, having opened for business at noon on January 8, as required by law.

The senate, composed of twenty-three Populists, fifteen republicans, and two democrats, was called to order by Lieutenant Governor Daniels. Senator Price, of Atchison, was absent on account of sickness. L. P. King, of Cowley, was re-elected president pro tem by a vote of 23 against 15 for S. O. Thatcher. Other officers elected were: W. L. Brown, of Kingman, secretary; J. L. Root, of Ellisworth, assistant secretary; H. N. Boyd, of Republic, sergeant-at-arms; J. D. Bokkin, of Wilson, chaplain; V. H. Biddison, of Marshall, docket clerk; Mrs. S. N. Wood, postmistress. The senate adjourned to 10 o'clock Wednesday.

The house met at the same hour. Secretary of State Osborne called the roll and the oath of office was administered to the members by Chief Justice Horton. Mr. Remington, of Miami, was chosen temporary speaker. A few moments later C. E. Lobdell, of Lane, was elected speaker and J. K. Cubbison speaker pro tem. Election of the other officers followed at once, all officers and employees having been previously selected by the republican caucus. The thirty-two Populists, with more desire for harmony, (or whatever it might be called) than the republicans of the senate had no candidates of their own, but most of them voted for Mr. Lobdell. The body contains ninety-one republicans and two democrats. After appointing a committee to wait on the governor (as the senate did) the house took a recess until afternoon, and after a short session adjourned to Wednesday.

To-day, (Wednesday), Governor Lewelling's message was read in the house and senate. The message proves to be an able paper, and for that reason is given in full in this issue.

The inauguration of the new state officers occurs January 14.

Roasting a National Banker.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Mr. Hepburn, formerly auditor of the treasury, briefly replied to Mr. Hendrix in the house to-day. He described him as a self-heralded national banker, who came here with oracular utterances to tell the house what to do. Mr. Hepburn said

his self-laudation was impaired by the recollection of his speech sixteen months ago when the same condition existed. Mr. Hendrix then found the panacea for all financial ills in the repeal of the Sherman silver law. Mr. Hepburn declared Mr. Hendrix had pointed out unwittingly the remedy for the present evil, then he told the house the great banking houses of Europe exercised their discretion about depleting their gold vaults. Why will not the secretary of the treasury exercise the same discretion, he asked, amid a round of applause. The exercise of this discretion did not impair the credit of European banks, who dared to say that the credit of this country with 63 millions of people behind it and with an unlimited taxing power, would be impaired because it refused to kneel at the demands of the shylocks. [Applause]

"Why have not the republican secretaries of the treasury exercised that discretion," asked Mr. Pease of Colorado.

"I have not been secretary of the treasury," replied Mr. Hepburn hotly. "When I am, I will answer. I am as fully convinced, however, as I am that I am alive, that if the secretary of the treasury were now to exercise his discretion and to pay gold when legitimate redemptions were asked and refuse it to sharks and speculators, the evils from which we suffer would cease to be." [Applause]

To illustrate the result of the present system, Mr. Hendrix pointed to the large accumulations of gold made by the Bank of France and the Bank of England at our expense. The former yesterday held 290 million gold francs, the latter 33 million pounds in gold. The capital and gold bullion of the world was resting in these great pools waiting to see what this country would do, see whether it would become a bankrupt unable to meet its obligations.

Anyone, Mr. Hendrix said, who would glance at the frank statements of the treasury, showing its small reserve, could not but marvel that it had not been sooner confronted with great peril.

Mr. Hendrix described at length the process by which the gold was withdrawn by speculators for shipment abroad, and then proceeded to contrast this with the situation in France, where the Bank of France refused to pay, except when actually necessary, more than 5 per cent. of gold on its demand obligations. These aggressions on our gold reserve must be stopped, and if the pending bill would stop them, afford relief, take the government out of the banking business as it had been taken out of the silver business, he would vote for it.

"Does the action of the Bank of
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THE NATIONAL CIRCUS.

CONGRESS TRYING HARD TO PLEASE ITS MASTER.

Statesmen Talking to Empty Seats While
Their Constituents Suffer from
Bad Legislation.

Special Correspondence.

Autocratic pirates and gold buccanniers have full control of our once glorious ship of state. The few congressmen who have consciences and souls are perfectly helpless in the clutch of these high-handed usurpers. It will never be different. The general public will never be served by the national congress until the two old party machines are broken, and a new clement gains control; a new party which will come into power for the express purpose of serving the people instead of the plunderers.

There isn't the slightest use in looking to congress for anything save that which will enhance the fortunes of the greedy gluttons of fortune. It is a foregone conclusion that whatever legislation gets through this session will be such as will please the privileged class. This state of affairs is so fixed that it is of little interest even to watch the gyrations and listen to the vaporings of the honorables while making grave pretense of serving their country.

The currency bill is under discussion in the house to-day. There was a comical performance going on when I entered the gallery. A big republican fellow from down East was reading his speech in thunderous tones, and it was so evident that he was making that speech to his constituents that no one in the house was listening. I think he must have been trying to "nollet" loud enough for his down East neighbors to hear him. He stood first on one foot and then on the other, thrust his hands into his trousers pockets while reading a page of his speech, which was bolstered up before him on a pile of books. Every few minutes his voice would tip up into a shrill sort of a yell, in order, I suppose, to give extra emphasis to the profound stuff he was getting off on the money question.

Here is one sentence which this orator shrilled out in extra high pitch: "Would I retire the greenbacks? Yes, I would."

The old chump! I wanted to throw something at him. If I could have aimed straight at that pile of books which supported the dreary stuff he was reciting to a suffering house, I would have been tempted to throw and risk arrest by the sergeant-at-arms.

Retire the greenbacks indeed! What for, I would like to know? Is it because

they are the best money a nation or people ever had? Is it because they carried the country through a terrible war? Is it because they are connected with the memories of Abraham Lincoln's administration? Ah! what patriots these latter-day republicans are.

I stood all of this rattling idiosyncrasy that was possible without becoming unamiable, then departed for the senate.

The show was different there, but quite as farcical. Another down East (this one a democrat) was reading his oration on the Nicaragua canal bond steal. Of course, he was in favor of it, but his speech was in lovely contrast to the orator at the other end of the capitol. The senator was spick and span just out of a band box, as to dress. He handled his gold eye glasses dextrously, and spoke in modulated tones. Nobody was interested, of course. There were not a dozen senators in the chamber.

Merciful heaven! what is a woman made of who can be so heartless and selfish with such boundless opportunity and means to bless and brighten other lives that the president's wife has at her command? Oh, for a woman, a woman of the people, a woman with a soul, such a woman as Mrs. John Davis or Mrs. Simpson to occupy the White House and use the glorious power and privilege of her position to make other lives brighter.

Francis Cleveland is a woman after David Overmyer's own heart (I'll not say soul—I don't think he has one). Mr. Overmyer's kind of women are of the selfish, society sort; women who wouldn't do so unwomanly a thing for the world as to go to the ballot box and cast a vote for a better and more Christian order of business and of society, but who would feel entirely delicate, refined and womanly without even an excuse of a dress above her shoulders and not a vestige of a sleeve, submitting to be gazed at and bugged by any drunken loafer who begged for a wait, provided of course, that the loafer was titled or rich.

ANNIE L. DRIGGS.

Arbitration.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—An opportunity will be given by the house committee on labor to parties interested in the new arbitration bill revised by Commissioner of Labor Wright to present their views on the plan.

Invitations have been sent by the chairman of the committee to all principal railroad managers of the country and to the leaders of the railroad corporations and labor organizations in general to appear before the committee next week.

None have as yet signified an intention to accept the invitation, but it is expected several well-known men will speak.